



A Special Press!
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THE WRITINGS OF FRED GLATT

Fred Glatt was a prominent numismatist in Anchorage in the 50s to the 80s. He is worthy of an article in this newsletter. Unfortunately, I did not know him, and know very little about him. I would be happy to have a reader submit such an article for publication.

But I was cleaning out the files (read- I was desperate for an article this month) and I found photocopies of articles Mr. Glatt wrote for the Totem Coin Club newsletter. Undated, I can only presume they are from the 60s and 70s. Though there are some inaccuracies, they reflect the knowledge of the day. Hope you find them interesting.

THE ALASKA BINGLE

After the purchase of Alaska from the Russians, Alaska entered a period of utter neglect.

Except for a very few Army personnel and a few Americans there was no law, no government, no nothing. Alaska was a forgotten place until the gold strike in 1898 in Nome (gold was first discovered in 1894 in Hope, Alaska).

In the 1898 gold rush, where fortunes were made and lost overnight, Alaska reached its greatest population. Towns sprouted up overnight. The news of the gold strike brought people from all over the lower states and the world to seek their fortunes.

Although many great strikes were publicized, Alaska offered a dirty and tragic experience for most. Many worked for meager wages to earn a trip home. A few stayed on.

The need for a steady commerce soon became apparent. Many merchants found that when ready cash was available it soon went south and transportation costs were prohibitive. This brought on the introduction of Trade Tokens and solved many problems for ready cash. This money stayed within the villages and the store keeper was assured future business. In some remote villages tokens came to be the only means of money. The few natives who ventured from their villages were surprised to find that their "Bingles" would not spend in other villages.

Toward the end of the 40s the Treasury Department waged a war on the Village Store Keeper over the issuing of the "bingles" and a law prohibiting the use of the items went into effect in 1950. After 1950 only a few new issues appeared. These were mostly advertising pieces and commemorative medallions.

The most glorified Alaska "Bingles" are the ARRC Bingles. There are eight to the set. They were issued by the United States Government in 1935 for use by the settlers of the Matanuska Valley. The set consists of a \$10.00 and \$5.00 Brass, and a 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ and \$1 which were struck in aluminum. There are only approximately 25 complete sets of ARRC Bingles known to exist today. These sets will bring anywhere from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00 per set today, depending on condition.

Another of the glorified Alaskan Tokens is the \$1.00 Buffet Bar token with the gold nugget upon it. This token is made of nickel. The number available for collectors is unknown.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS PRICES REALIZED

Yes, I know. I messed up. The pages in the last issue were numbered incorrectly. If this really bothers you, I will send a corrected issue. Just let me know.

This was a quiet month on eBay. Not many interesting items, and many did not sell. The most interesting was a lot of four tokens from Nome. See the Prices Realized and For the Record.

I guess it would be odd to not mention our governor being nominated for Vice President. My wife and I were laying (or is that lying) in bed at about 6:45AM with the radio on, and she said "Are you listening to this?" In fact, I had heard it about an hour earlier. To say this was a surprise is an understatement.

Since that time, we have laughed at some of the comments in the national media and bristled at others.

So, the question is - Is she qualified to be VP? Yes, I think so. President should the unthinkable happen? Again, yes, if not more so than the other three folks involved. She has at least administered something (a city and a state), and not just been full of speeches (and hot air), like Senators. Just my opinion (and believe me, I have more of them).

If she moves on to be VP, it will be a huge loss to Alaska. But we would expect that she would be a strong advocate for Alaska and the role it can play in providing resources for the country. And, when all else fails, there is the Alaska Independence Party.

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Selected prices realized from eBay:

Cordova , Northern Drug, 50¢, B-28b	355.00
Ellamar , Ellamar Mining, 10¢, B-1b	404.00
Fairbanks , Brown Derby, 25¢, B-10d	46.00
Fairbanks , Eagle Cigar Store, 25¢, B-14c	OB150.00NB
Haines , Brouillette, 10¢, B-3a	90.00OB
Homer , Homer Club, 50¢, B-2a	130.00
Ketchikan , Pedro D. Santos, 25¢, B-54a	710.00
Ketchikan , Tongass Masonic, B-61aI	88.88
Kodiak , Club Liquor Store, encased cent	117.50
Kukak Bay , Hemrich, \$10, B-1gI	175.00OB
Kukak Bay , Pioneer Pkg. "50", B-2c	295.00OB
Nome , Board of Trade, 12½¢, B-12e?	*
Nome , Dexter Saloon chips (fantasy??)	420.15
Nome , Hoffman, no denom., B-26a	95.00OB
Nome , The Lacey, 12½¢, B-29a	*
Palmer , ARRC, 1¢, B-1a	87.00
Palmer , ARRC, 5¢, B-1b	49.99OB
Palmer , ARRC, 10¢, B-1c	49.99OB
Palmer , ARRC, 10¢, B-1c	49.99OB
Palmer , ARRC, 25¢, B-1d	105.50
Palmer , ARRC, 50¢, B-1e	137.50
Palmer , ARRC, \$1, B-1f, damaged	OB15.00NB
Palmer , ARRC, \$10, B-1h	180.38
Palmer , ARRC, set less \$5 (2nd offered)	OB700.00NB
Ruby , Shel's, 25¢, B-5a	OB295.00NB
Seldovia , Johansen, 10¢ pink cbd, B-3unI	16.03
Seldovia , Johansen, 12½¢, B-3b	66.53
Seward , Northern, 12½¢, B-8a (oval)	150.00OB
Seward , The Palace, 12½¢, B-9b	150.00OB
Valdez , (Copper Block) Buffet, 12½¢, B-4b	60.65
Valdez , (Copper Block) Buffet, 12½¢, B-4b	69.00OB
Valdez , Copper Block Buffet, \$1, B-4cII	1,352.23
Yakutat , Y&S RR, \$1, B-3d	OB395.00NB
Dawson, YT , Floridora, 25¢	C\$175.00OB
Whitehorse , TDP, 25¢-\$1, \$10, \$20	C\$85.00
Tierra del Fuego , Est. 1 & 2, 20¢	105.50
AYPE , ¼ DWT	162.50
AYPE , ¼ DWT	203.50
AYPE , ¼ DWT, NGC-64	460.55
AYPE , ½ DWT	282.11
AYPE , encased cent, round	19.50
AYPE , encased cent, round	OB35.00NB
AYPE , encased cent, round	24.50OB
AYPE , encased cent, round	23.50
AYPE , encased cent, round	33.00
AYPE , encased cent, round	39.00
AYPE , encased cent, horseshoe	26.00
AYPE , encased cent, chamber pot	34.00
Rainier Beer , Alaska's Favorite, encased cent	49.00OB
Good Luck Bank Alaska , Whitman, Mass.	67.00

* part of a four piece lot, \$1,275 - see For the Record

OB = Opening Bid NB = No Bid RL = relist

RNM = Reserve Not Met R = Reserve W = withdrawn

BIN = Buy it now DNS = Did Not Sell

FRED GLATT, CONT.

They will bring a very high price on the numismatic market today, anywhere from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00. So if you are lucky enough to have one of these in your collection you have a little gold mine. Don't you?

THE STORY OF THE DESIGN OF ALASKA'S PURCHASE CENTENNIAL SEAL

Have you ever wondered about the design on the Centennial Seal? (ed. note: we refer to this as the Purchase Centennial Totem). What it stands for? What each design in the seal means? Here is the simple explanation of the seal.

The design for the Alaska Purchase Centennial medalion was submitted by Major Robert D. Vodica and became the award winning design in statewide competition.



up: the Russian Church represents the early Russian rule; the Eagle symbolizes the purchase by the United States and recalls that period of Alaska's history when the Territory was governed by the United States Dept. of War, Treasury and Navy.

Reading the insignia on the totem pole from the base

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SALOON TOKENS OF THE UNITED STATES

by Al Erickson

- * Lists about 6,400 saloon tokens
- * Also lists Canadian, Mexican and International saloon tokens
- * Gives a Certainty of Attribution (CA) number for each maverick
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to #10/08

FRED GLATT, CONT.

Above the Eagle there is a Goldpanner to bring to mind the drama of the gold stampede. Not only did the Rushes bring wealth and fame to Alaska, they served to provide impetus for Alaska's first significant increase in white population, and inspired further explorations.

The stylized Train above the Goldpanner signifies ensuing needs for all kinds of transportation and the remarkable advances made in supplying them. The artist says he visualized the 49th STAR on top of the totemic emblems to embrace concepts of Alaska's achieving Statehood, and also as a star of law and order to point ahead vast possibilities for the 49th State.

Many people comment on the regal simplicity of Alaska's flag with the Dipper's golden stars on a field of blue, and it is inclusion, above Mt. McKinley, serves to admirably toward the balanced beauty of the medallion's design.

General Lovell H. Rousseau of the United States Army and Captain Alexis Pestchouloff of the Russian Imperial Navy effected the transfer. The steamships Ossippi and John L Stevens arrived at Sitka on October 18, 1867; The double-eagle standard of Russia was lowered and the Stars and Stripes raised the same afternoon.

The Treaty of Purchase was signed March 30, 1867 by Secretary of State William H. Seward for the United States and by Edouard De Stoeckl for Emperor Alexander II of Russia. All Russian possessions of the North American continent were to be transferred to the United States for the sum of \$7,200,000. Secretary of State Seward concluded his long negotiations for the purchase on March 30th at 4 o'clock in the morning. He acted immediately upon receiving word from de Stoeckl that his Government had cabled consent to the cession. The end of the session of Congress was near and Seward hastened to see that the treaty was engrossed, signed, sealed and ready for transmission by the President to the Senate the very night he received Russia's consent. The first step toward creation of American Alaska had now been accomplished.

(We have the silver and bronze sets available for \$150. A high relief portrait of Seward is on the obverse. The silver contains just over 5 troy ounces.)

THE SPORTSMAN'S INN



The Sportsman's Inn, Whittier, Alaska, medal was designed by Bud Hartman - a member of our coin club. The issue date was June, 1967.

There are two medals to this set - a bronze 1 9/16 diameter, 14 gauge. There were 1000 struck, all serial numbered. The other medal was struck in nickel-silver, 1 3/4 diameter, 14 gauge. There were 1000 struck, all serial numbered. The bronze medal original selling price was \$1.00 and the nickel silver medal original selling price was \$5.00. These medals were struck at the Wendall mint.

The reason these medals were struck was for advertising but few were let into circulation until a hoard turned up at the Alaska Coins Unlimited shop. After the shop was closed these medals were sold at public auction. It is unknown who purchased the hoard of medals.

(We have the brass and "nickel-silver" sets available for \$20.)

FORT WAINWRIGHT BARBER SHOP



The Fort Wainwright Barber Shop token was issued in May, 1967, and was good for a haircut at Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base.

These tokens were struck at the Wendall mint. This token was designed by Daniel Gaudiane, who is the

FRED GLATT, CONT.

concessionaire at Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Bases. The original selling price of these tokens were \$1.40. Only bronze tokens were struck.

There were 5,000 tokens struck, but approximately 2,000 were lost in the 1967 Fairbanks flood. These tokens were in the home of the concessionaire. At that time his home was on the banks of the Chena River - house and all went down stream - and was totally destroyed.

This is the only Centennial token with the obverse and reverse the same. It has the Centennial emblem on both sides. What few are left are still in use today.

This information was given to me by Joe Shelton, who is the manager of the Fort Wainwright Barber Shop.

(We have this haircut token available for \$10.)

THE JOCKEY CLUB TRADE DOLLAR

There are two medals to this set - a bronze and a sterling silver. They were designed by Mr. Wayne Racine - owner of the Jockey Club in Moose Pass, Alaska.

The original selling price of the two medal set was \$11.00 with the individual bronze selling for \$1.00 each.

There were 1,000 bronze serial numbered and 50 sterling silver serial numbered struck.

The obverse of the medal was "just advertising" and the reverse has the Alaska Centennial emblem. This medal in sterling silver is one of the rarer Centennial medals.

This medal was the only medal to be struck for Moose Pass, Alaska area in the Centennial series.

The above information concerning the medal was given to me by Mr. Racine who is owner of the Jockey Club and an Alaska big game guide. Many thanks, Wayne.

(If you order any of these, please include \$5 for postage and insurance.)

A FEW OUNCES OF SILVER



(FAIRBANKS): First Federal Savings (& Loan). At the corner of Cushman and Gaffney. Only .64 ounces, presumably silver. FFS&L went down in the S&L crisis. Quite scarce (2)- \$20.



ALASKAN PIPELINE: One of the first items issued to commemorate the pipeline, 1 oz. (1) \$25.



KETCHIKAN: Alaska's First City, Alexander Archipelago, Inside Passage. Very attractive 1 oz. silver. (1) \$25.

(#) = number available. Please include \$5 for postage and handling. Phone or email to reserve.

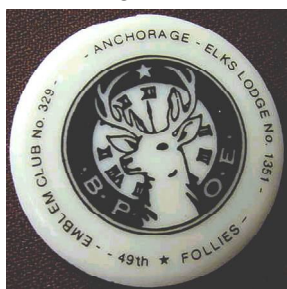
FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: Alaska Native Heritage Center, Inupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik. Brass, 39mm.



(ANCHORAGE): Dirty Old Men Enterprises, good for 30¢ Drink. Black on wood. Thought to be an "after hours joint" in Anchorage.



ANCHORAGE: Elks Lodge No. 1351, Emblem Club No. 329, 49th Follies. Black on white, 37mm. Appears to be porcelain (submitted by Ken Reick).



ANCHORAGE: Mallory's, good for 1 oz. smoked salmon. Dunbar High's Class Reunion, July 19, 1980, Dunbar, West Virginia. Brass, 32mm. I have seen this before, and I am sure it is for Tuck or Becky's high school reunion.



CORDOVA: The Reluctant Fisherman, 50¢ in trade. Blue on gold plastic. A 25¢ was reported in the Aug./Sept. 1992 issue. Probably 38mm.



FAIRBANKS: Fairbanks Daily News-Miner Christmas 1 oz. silver medal. We have not seen this one before. Unfortunately, someone has made a cut in the edge.



SEATTLE, WA: Yukon Dance Hall, Good for 12½¢ in trade, ? Potlatch, July 16, July 19, 1913, ?AD Club, May 10, 1913. Reverse, Rainier Beer. Wretched condition, partially illegible, but a cool token! Aluminum, 38mm, PR \$39.88. Anyone have a nicer example?



(FAIRBANKS?): Horse Shoe Saloon, 12½¢ in trade. Aluminum, 29mm. PR \$33.50.

FOR THE RECORD



FINGER BAY: Bayside Restaurant, Meal Ticket, 86mm by 58mm. Finger Bay is on Adak Island in the Aleutians. The use of the term restaurant is probably just a grandiose term for mess hall.



(NOME): Eagle Bar, John W. Mountjoy, 10¢ in trade. Brass, size not noted. Offered on eBay with 3 other Nome tokens. See next item.



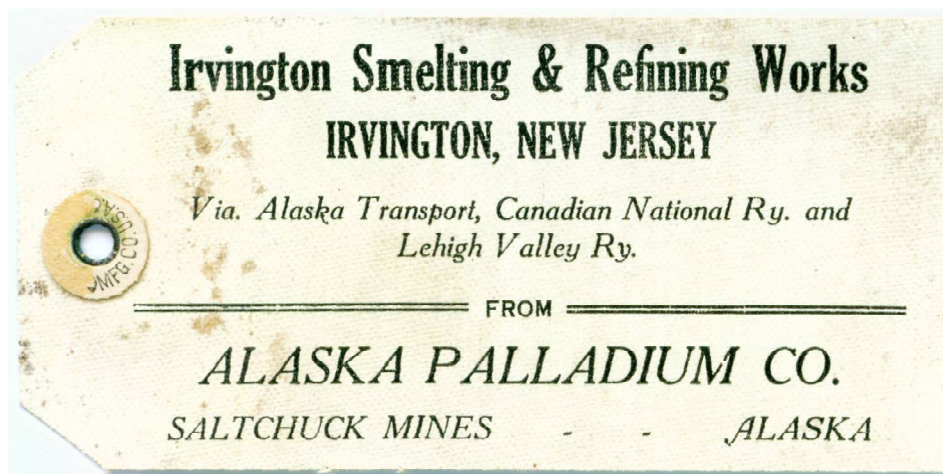
NOME: The Eagle, Good for one drink. Black on red cardboard, presumably 38mm. Offered on eBay with the preceding lot, and Board of Trade B-12e? and The Lacey B-29a. Price realized \$1,275.



ALASKA-YUKON PACIFIC EXPOSITION: One ounce silver medal copying the obverse of AYPE medals, reverse is typical "Silver Trade Unit" (submitted by Don Somers).

ANCHORAGE: Anchorage Coin Club medal reported last month was also available in silver, silver with gold relief and bronze (submitted by Don Somers).

ALASKA PALLADIUM CO.



From P.S. Smith: Mineral Industry of Alaska, 1933, USGS Bulletin 864-A. "In the past, a considerable production of platinum metals came from lodes in southeastern Alaska operated by the Alaska Palladium Co., on Kasaan Peninsula, Prince of Wales Island, about 30 miles west of Ketchikan."

CHALLENGE COINS ANTARCTIC MEDALS



ANCHORAGE: Crisis Intervention Team, Anchorage Police Department. Black, blue and white on silver.



Very nice Antarctic medal, contained in a paperweight with both sides showing. 59mm, appears to be bronze.



ALASKA: Army National Guard, 207th Infantry Group (Scout). Black, white, red, yellow, green, etc. on bronze.



Operation Deepfreeze: We have seen these two dies before, but not used together. It does seem odd, as we have seen the obverse, obviously Catholic, paired with the Protestant reverse. Both dies used here are Catholic. 33mm, sterling silver.



KODIAK: USCG Communication Station, Voice of the North. Black, white, red, and blue on gold.

ENGRAVED DOLLAR



ALASKA: Wolf's head engraved on a silver dollar. Listed on eBay as a "hobo nickel art" type of item. Really, it looks like someone trying to turn a common, or maybe a previously damaged silver dollar into a collectible. The Haines counterstamp from last month was a better attempt. Wish I knew if it was the same seller!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most Challenge Coins are about 38 to 40mm. Some are larger, some smaller. All are shown at about 38mm, but this may not be actual size. Actual size is noted where known. If the enamel is shown "on gold" or "on silver", this should be assumed to be gold colored or silver colored and not the actual metal.



WHITEMAN AFB, MISSOURI: Spirit of Alaska, B-2 Stealth Bomber, 509th Bomber Wing. Red, yellow, blue and white on silver.

POPPER'S PRESS



David Guervara of Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina sent in the above photo. It is the press used by Julius Popper at El Paramo to mint his gold tokens. This press is now owned by Mr. Robert Daniel Berbel of Tolhuin, Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, on the shores of Lake Fagnano. Unfortunately, over the years it has been modified for use in his art workshop.

In any case, a great find! Perhaps when David get around to making his gold tokens (he owns claims at El Paramo and Sloggett Bay), he might be able to use this press.

NOME GOLD!!!

There is a new member of my token family. I had a little over 2 DWT of Nome gold left, so I made another die "Golden Sands Nome." I need to go back and punch the lettering in deeper. I will re-melt the two I have made, and try again.



In the past, with this little gold left over, I could not pour an ingot. I tried a new technique, which will allow me to use even only one DWT. I have a charcoal block with a depression. If I melt the gold on the block, let it cool just a little, and then drop it in water, I get a nice little button. I can then flatten the button with the rolling mill. If there is more than a DWT, I can roll it to thickness, and then punch out a blank.

Now, I just need more gold from Nome!

DICK'S PRESS



Above is the "25 ton, manual hydraulic press" with which I have a love/hate relationship. It is obviously working well enough to press out our 1 oz. gold tokens, but it is never fun. The hydraulic cylinder does not retract fast enough when the pressure is released, and does not retract all the way. Perhaps over this long weekend, I will drain some fluid and see if that helps. I have been told that should do it.

I was pressing out #5 (already sold), and it took four pressings to get the desired detail. In hindsight, I think I did not have the valve closed all the way, and the middle two pressing were very weak.

The Popper's screw press looks like much more fun than my hydraulic press. If they weren't so dang heavy, I would buy one and have it shipped up. Shipping is about the same as the cost of the screw press. Anyone know of one in Alaska???



We do have #4 available. It has a specific gravity of 17.12, for an estimated fineness of .8473. Originally, our plan was to sell these for 90% of spot. Unfortunately, we can't do that now. We are offering this piece at a fixed price of \$800 plus \$8 postage and handling.